

Message Text

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62

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 AID-05 /102 W
----- 125603

R 012044Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6313

INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

UNCLAS OTTAWA 1631

EO 11652 NA

TAGS PFOR VS CA

SUBJ TRUDEAU CASTS DOUBT ON POST-VIETNAM U.S. RELIABILITY

1. ACCORDING TO OTTAWA JOURNAL ARTICLE MAY 1 DATED
KINGSTON, CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU REPORTEDLY STATED
APRIL 30 THAT FOLLOWING FALL OF SOUTH VIETNAM AND INABILITY
OF PRESIDENT FORD TO SECURE CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR HIS
POLICIES, NATIONS ENDANGERED IN THE FUTURE MIGHT FEEL
THAT THEY COULD NOT RELY ON THE WORD OF A US PRESIDENT.
DESCRIBING THE FALL OF SAIGON AS "INEVITABLE" AND HAVING
CREATED A "VERY SERIOUS SITUATION FOR THE UNITED STATES,"
TRUDEAU SAID HE WAS NOT THINKING OF POSSIBLE SOVIET
EFFORTS TO CAPITALIZE ON US WEAKNESS SINCE SOVIET POLICY
SEEMED TO BE TO STABILIZE THE WORLD SITUATION. HOWEVER,
WITH RESPECT TO COUNTRIES THAT MIGHT FEEL ENDANGERED,
HE QUESTIONED WHETHER THEY WOULD LOOK TO THE US OR ELSEWHERE.
TRUDEAU SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT REFERRING
SPECIFICALLY TO THE "DOMINO THEORY" AND THE FALL
OF SOUTHEAST ASIA TO COMMUNISM, HE ADDED THAT THE
DOMINO THEORY MIGHT WELL APPLY. IN THIS CONTEXT HE
REFERRED TO THE FACT THAT SINGAPORE'S PRIME MINISTER LEE HAD
WARNED US LIBERALS SEVERAL YEARS AGO THAT WHILE IT
WAS FINE FOR THEM TO CALL FOR A US PULL-OUT FROM
VIETNAM, "WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME AND MALAYSIA?"

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2. ARTICLE DID NOT INDICATE CONTEXT OF REPORTED
TRUDEAU REMARKS NOR WHETHER THEY WERE MADE IN PUBLIC
OR PRIVATE.
JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OTTAWA01631
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750153-1000
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750589/aaaadecg.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRUDEAU CASTS DOUBT ON POST-VIETNAM U.S. RELIABILITY
TAGS: PFOR, VS, CA, US, (TRUDEAU, PIERRE-ELLIOTT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006